

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a human  
homolog of Drosophila melanogaster Reaper (hRpr)  
protein and to a nucleic acid sequence encoding  
5 same. The invention further relates to antibodies  
specific for hRpr and antisense molecules that bind  
nucleic acid sequences encoding hRpr. The invention  
also relates to methods of screening compounds for  
their ability to enhance or inhibit hRpr activity  
10 and to methods of using compounds so identified in  
therapeutic regimes.